



ENGINEERS  
AUSTRALIA

### **Keith Baker FIEAust CPEng**

Keith Baker has had a long and successful professional career as a Heritage Engineer in the ACT. Since arriving in Canberra in 1982 he has worked as an Electrical Engineer with both Commonwealth and Territory Government organisations concerned with works, construction and housing. During this period he developed skills in the engineering and management of heritage structure and generated his passion for the conservation and interpretation of the heritage aspects of our built environment.

He consequently studied a Master of Applied Science in Cultural Heritage Management at Canberra University and worked part-time for the Australian Heritage Commission, where he worked on research topics including the National Historic Shipwrecks Program and co-ordination activities with State heritage agencies. Keith then formed his own consultancy company and undertook heritage studies on subjects as varied as Canberra's street lighting, the Cotter River dam and pumping station, an interpretation of Kingston Powerhouse, an assessment of the Canberra Main Outfall Sewer, a general heritage study of the town of Tumbarumba and a study of the historic significance of Old Windsor Road.

Keith has been a member of Engineering Heritage Canberra since the early 1990s and was Chair of the group for three years. He has also been a member of the National Board of Engineering Heritage Australia since 1999 and has served in a variety of positions including Chairman from 2005 to 2006. Keith chaired the organising committee for the 2001 National Engineering Heritage Conference held in Canberra. For the 2013 conference in Canberra Keith again served on the organising committee and undertook the lead in the review of papers.

Keith is a member of Australia ICOMOS and the National Trust of Australia (ACT) and was a member of the ACT Heritage Council's Standing Committee on Built Heritage for two years. Across the many groups and bodies where he has been involved Keith has always sought to promote the cause of engineering heritage, doing so through actions as well as words.

In May 2013 Keith's definitive record, *A Centenary of Canberra Engineering*, was released. Written to coincide with the Centenary of Canberra, this book provides a wonderful record in both text and photographs of the development of Canberra, deftly weaving the engineering and social aspects of the growth of the Capital. Produced by the Canberra Division of Engineers Australia, the book will be a definitive testament to Keith's passion for the interpretation and conservation of Canberra's engineering heritage. Keith Baker has made an outstanding contribution to the recognition of the engineering heritage of Canberra and more widely across Australia, though his tireless promotion of heritage in both his professional work and within Engineers Australia.

